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COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT TOPIC First Gds Mecz Army, 8th Gds Mecz Div, and 11th Gds Tank Div, in Dresden, 25X1Grimma and Wurzen.

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 1 September 1955REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. From 18 July to 6 August 1955, the Uebigau Kaserne (1307) in Dresden was still heavily occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and blue-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia. On 4 August, approximately 20 engineer vehicles and a crane truck were seen in front of the installation. Most of the trucks carried pontoons approximately 7 meters long.¹

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2. From 19 July to 22 August, the Strassburg Kaserne (1402) in Grimma was occupied by approximately 800 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets including some with artillery insignia and few with motor transport and signal insignia. At 2100 on 22 July, approximately 35 M-3 armored personnel carriers, 20 to 30 trucks, 9 x 57-mm AT guns towed by armored personnel carriers, 4 x 85-mm AT guns towed by trucks, 4 x 120-mm mortars, 4 field kitchens, 8 signal trucks, 5 BA-64 armored scout cars and 2 motorcycles left the installation and proceeded in the direction of Dresden. The unit was commanded by a colonel with artillery insignia. No billeting equipment was seen. Between 2200 and 2300 on 30 July, a column which came from the direction of Dresden returned to the installation. It included the heavy weapons and trucks which had left the installation on 22 July.²

3. At 1900 on 15 August, a troop train coming from the direction of Dresden arrived at the Grimma upper railroad station. Four 37-mm AA guns, approximately 10 trucks and several signal trucks were detrained and went to the Strassburg Kaserne (1402) in Grimma. At 1900 on 17 August, 5 trucks with 5 x 37-mm AA guns and approximately 25 soldiers and ammunition boxes coming from the direction of Dresden passed through Grimma and proceeded in the direction of Strassburg Kaserne. From 18 July to 6 August, no tanks were seen in Grimma. Most of the units had returned to the post.³

4. On 22 August, the Elsner Kaserne (1401) in Grimma was occupied by approximately 200 to 250 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and approximately 100 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia. A major wearing black-bordered golden epaulets with bridge building engineer insignia was seen for the

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first time in the installation. Prior to 22 August, most personnel of the engineer battalion and the pontoons were not in the installation. They were, however, not seen on the Mulde River.⁴

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5. From 6 to 12 August, there was unusually little training activity in the Flak Kaserne (1881) in Wurzen and little vehicular traffic in the town.⁵

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1. Comment. Since the unidentified engineer regiment of the First Gds Mecz Army, as well as the 134th Gds Engr Bn of the 11th Gds Tank Div. are quartered in the Uebigau Kaserne in Dresden, it cannot be determined to which of these engineer units the column seen on 4 August belonged.

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On 5 August, presumably the same engineer unit coming from the direction of Grossenhain was seen at the Muehlberg training grounds.

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2. Comment. The column presumably left for exercise of the 21st Gds Mecz Regt of the 8th Gds Mecz Div. probably on the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds.

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3. Comment. The bulk of the 21st Gds Mecz Regt of the 8th Gds Mecz Div. except for the 69th Gds Tank Bn had apparently returned from the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds to Grimma post prior to 17 August.

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4. Comment. The 155th Gds Sig Bn of the 8th Gds Mecz Div. was confirmed at the post prior to 22 August. Elements of the 133d Gds Engr Bn were presumably still at the Muehlberg engineer training site on 22 August.

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5. Comment. Prior to 12 August, the 20th Gds Mecz Regt is assumed to be still at the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds.

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